REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed April 9, 2008. At the time of the Office Action, Claims 1-20 were pending in this Application. Claims 1, 3, 6-9, and 14-19 have been canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 2 and 20 have been amended to independent form since the claims upon which they depended have been canceled. Claim 4 has been amended to depend upon claim 2 because claim 1 has been canceled. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Summary of Rejections

The Office Action indicated that Claims 1, 3, 6-9, and 14-19 were rejected as allegedly unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and/or 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 2,805,196 to Roebersen et al. Applicants respectfully disagree. However, in order to more efficiently advance prosecution, Applicants have canceled the rejected claims, thereby rendering this rejection moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action indicated that Claims 2, 4-5, and 20 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The Office Action further indicated that Claims 10-13 are allowable.

Accordingly, Claims 2 and 20 have been amended to independent form since the claims upon which they depended have been canceled. Claim 4 has been amended to depend upon claim 2 because claim 1 has been canceled. Thus, based on the remarks in the Office Action dated April 9, 2008, the claims now pending in the present application are in condition for allowance. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

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CONCLUSION

Applicant has made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for allowance in light of the amendments and remarks set forth above. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending claims.

Applicant authorizes the Commissioner to charge \$555.00 for a three-month extension of time (small entity) to Deposit Account No. 50-2148 of Baker Botts L.L.P. Applicant believes there are no further fees due at this time, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees necessary or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2148 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

If there are any matters concerning this Application that may be cleared up in a telephone conversation, please contact Applicant's attorney at 512.322.2647.

Respectfully submitted, BAKER BOTTS L.L.P. Attorney for Applicant

Guy F. Birkenmeier, Ph.D.

Reg. No. 52,622

Date: October 9, 2008

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

CUSTOMER NO. **31625** 512.322.2647

512.322.8383 (fax)